

## Message Text

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12

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

AGR-20 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 /135 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:EGNEHM:HME

EXT. 20653 7/18/73

APPROVED BY NEA:JJSISCO

FFP: MRS. BITTERMAN(INFO)

ASIA/SA:JSHEPHERD(INFO)

NEA/INS:LBLAINGEN

----- 005169

R 192348Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CE

SUBJECT: PM'S URGENT REQUEST FOR PL 480 WHEAT FLOUR

REF: A) COLOMBO 1788; B) COLOMBO 1783; C) COLOMBO 1789

1. SUMMARY: SRI LANKA CHARGE DE ALWIS CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO ON JULY 17 TO DELIVER LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE TO PRESIDENT (SAME AS REPORTED REB B).  
END SUMMARY

2. SISCO SAID HE WOULD SEE LETTER WAS DELIVERED PROMPTLY, ADDING HE WAS UNCERTAIN WHAT ANSWER WOULD BE. SISCO EMPHASIZED THAT OUR DIFFICULTIES IN MEETING SRI LANKA'S PL 480 REQUEST WERE NOT QUESTION OF POLICY. OUR POLICY HAS BEEN AND REMAINS TO BE AS HELPFUL AS WE CAN. SISCO CONTINUED THAT US AND SRI LANKA ENJOYED CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND THAT IN HIS OPINION OUR RELATIONSHIP IN RECENT YEARS HAS BEEN A SUCCESS STORY OF HOW RELATIONS  
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BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES CAN DEVELOP. SISCO NOTED US HAD

DIFFICULTIES IN PL 480 AREA TODAY BUT THEY WERE QUESTION  
OF RESOURCES -- THE LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES --  
NOT POLICY. SISCO EXPRESSED HOPE DE ALWIS WOULD MAKE  
THAT POINT CLEAR TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

3. DE ALWIS REVIEWED RECENT HISTORY OF PL 480 ISSUE --

INABILITY TO NEGOTIATE EARLY AGREEMENT FOR FY'74, USE  
OF CCC CREDIT (NOW FINISHED, HE SAID) AND DESPERATE  
SECOND QUARTER SITUATION. DE ALWIS SAID HIS GOVERNMENT  
WOULD LIKE SOME INDICATION AGREEMENT CAN GO FORWARD.

4. SISCO SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD NEEDS OF SRI LANKA.  
HE ADDED THAT IN ADDITION TO QUESTION OF AVAILABILITY  
THERE WAS QUESTION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPORT CONTROLS  
AND WHOLE RANGE OF DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED  
IN PHASE IV. SISCO NOTED, TOO, THAT PL 480 WAS NOW  
RELATED TO AMERICAN DOMESTIC ISSUES, BY THE RISING  
PRICE OF FOOD IN US, IN WAY THAT HAD NOT BEEN TRUE IN  
PREVIOUS YEARS.

5. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S PROMPT REPORTING IN REFTELS.  
THEY GAVE US GOOD ADVANCE INFORMATION OF SUBJECT OF  
DE ALWIS' CALL. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE142392  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EGNEHM:HME  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 A) COLOMBO 1788; B) COLOMBO 1783;  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JAN 2002  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PM'S URGENT REQUEST FOR PL 480 WHEAT FLOUR  
**TAGS:** EAID, CE  
**To:** COLOMBO  
**Type:** TE  
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